

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-3 and 6-11 are pending herein. Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the content of dependent claims 4 and 5. Claims 4 and 5 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicant respectfully submits that no new matter has been added.

Claims 1-11 were rejected under §103(a) over Doi. To the extent that this rejection may be applied against the amended claims, it is respectfully traversed.

Amended claim 1 recites a lens sheet for a screen comprising at least one layer adapted for use in combination with another lens sheet. The layer in contact with the another lens sheet is formed of a thermoplastic resin having a universal hardness of 31.0 to 42.0 N/mm². When the lens sheet for the screen has a single layer structure, the thermoplastic resin has a water absorption of not more than 0.2%. When the lens sheet for the screen comprises two or more layers, a relationship represented by $\alpha_1 - \alpha_2 > 0.1\%$ is satisfied, where α_1 represents the water absorption % of the thermoplastic resin constituting the layer in contact with the another lens, and α_2 represents the water absorption % of the resin constituting the remaining layer(s).

Doi discloses a resin composition for an optical element having a predetermined viscoelasticity to prevent deformation of the optical element. Amended claim 1 is distinguishable from Doi for at least the following reasons.

First, Doi fails to disclose, teach or suggest the claimed water absorption coefficient for the thermoplastic resin making up the lens sheet. Amended claim 1 recites that when the lens sheet is a single layer structure, the thermoplastic resin has a water absorption of not more than 0.2%, and when the lens sheet comprises two or more layers the relationship represented by $\alpha_1 - \alpha_2 > 0.1\%$ is satisfied, where α_1 represents the water absorption percentage of the thermoplastic resin constituting the layer in contact with the another lens, and α_2 represents the water absorption percentage of the resin constituting the remaining layer(s).

Second, Doi fails to disclose, teach or suggest that the warpage and lifting of the lens sheet are reduced and the friction resistance of the lens sheet is improved when the lens sheet is formed of a thermoplastic resin having the specific universal hardness and specific water absorption coefficient within the claimed ranges. In fact, Doi only discloses the hardness and elasticity of the optical element with respect to the deformation or crushing of the optical element. In contrast, as discussed in paragraphs [0018] and [0026] – [0027] of the specification, the lens sheet formed of a thermoplastic resin having the specifically claimed universal hardness and water absorption coefficient reduces the warpage and lifting of the lens sheet and improves the friction resistance of the lens sheet. As demonstrated by the comparative data for the working examples presented in Table 2 and paragraphs [0059] – [0060] in the specification, the lens friction resistance is improved and the warpage and lifting of the lens sheet is reduced in the lens sheets formed of a resin having a universal hardness within the range of 31.0 to 42.0 N/mm² and having not more than 0.2% of

water absorption for a single layer lens sheet, or more than 0.1% of the difference in water absorption between the layer in contact with the another lens and the remaining layer(s), as claimed.

Based on the above, Doi fails to teach or suggest each and every element of amended claim 1. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw this rejection.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that all pending claims herein are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is requested to issue a Notice of Allowance for this application in due course.

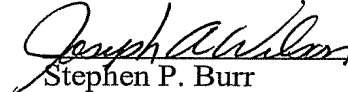
If the Examiner believes that contact with Applicant's attorney would be advantageous toward the disposition of this case, the Examiner is herein requested to call Applicant's attorney at the phone number noted below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees
associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No.
50-1446.

Respectfully submitted,

October 24, 2008

Date



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